

# Area Obituaries



**Anselma Lescinski**  
South Canaan

Anselma Lescinski, 89, of South Canaan, formerly of Carbondale passed away peacefully on Wednesday morning, September 23, 2020 at Wayne Woodlands Manor, Waymart, after an illness. She was preceded in death by her husband Michael Lescinski.

Born July 22, 1931 in Carbondale, she was the daughter of the late George and Anna Gill. Anselma will always be remembered for her dedication to her family and her husband, Michael and her children, Joann and Dave. She loved to take care of everyone and share early life experiences and the strong values that she was raised with. She loved to cook, sew and was an active member in her church, Holy Trinity in Simpson. She spent a lot of time with her grandchildren, Amy, Sharon, Kristi, Jaime and Emily and taught them Slovak and Lithuanian family recipes and traditions. Anselma loved playing Yatzee and card games. She enjoyed planning and preparing for gatherings with friends and family at the Lake. Her life will be remembered by her strength, courage, faith, love and compassion.

The Funeral Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, September 28, 2020 in St. Mary's Church, 242 Carbondale Road, Waymart, PA with Rev. Joseph Sitko officiating.

Arrangements are entrusted to Jenkins-Howell Funeral Home, Inc. Edward R. Howell, Funeral Director, 269 Belmont St. Waymart, PA 18472. www.JenkinsHowellFuneralHome.com



**Dorothy Rose Gale Petrilak**  
Forest City

Dorothy Rose Gale Petrilak, 82, of Forest City, died suddenly on Wednesday, September 30, 2020. She is the wife of Joseph F. Petrilak. The couple had been married for 61 years.

Born in New York City, she was the daughter of the late Harold and Cecilia Rodriguez Gale. She was educated in New York City public schools, received a Bachelors of Education from Hunter College, a Master's Degree in Education and Advanced Degree in School Administration. Dorothy had been employed as a teacher and administrator for the New York City Public Schools for over 33 years.

Dorothy was multi-talented, her interests were wide and varied, among them a painter and poet. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends and her impact will be felt by the ages.

She is also survived by her five children, Thomas, Cedar Point, NC, Denis, Monroe, NY, Timothy, Midland Park, NJ, Suzanne, Douglaston, NY and Joseph, Forest City, nine grandchildren, Michael, Daniel, Thomas, Gregory, Andrew, Christopher, Matthew, Grace and Bronwyn, a great grandson, Jonathan, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Harold.

A Blessing Service was conducted on Sunday, October 4 in the Joseph W. Scotchlas Funeral Home, Inc., 621 Main St., Simpson.

For directions or condolences visit: [www.scotchlasfuneralhome.com](http://www.scotchlasfuneralhome.com)



**James J. McCusker Jr.**  
Union Dale

James J. McCusker Jr., Union Dale, age 73, passed on Sunday, October 4, 2020, at his home with his wife, Maryann Verboys Durko McCusker, at his bedside, after multi-years of illness. He had been lovingly cared for at home for the past years by his wife during several major bouts of illness.

He was the son of the late James B. and Helen Slamas McCusker and was born in Carbondale May 9, 1947. His mother passed away in 2009 and his father passed in 2011. He and his wife were married June 3, 2000.

He was a tireless volunteer for the Forest City Area and always went out of his way to help people in need.

His entire life revolved around the Forest City Fire Dept. and the Forest City Area Ambulance Association. He followed in the footsteps of his father, first joining the Hillside Fire Dept. in 1963, with the company later merging in May 1965 with the Enterprise Hose Company to form Forest City Fire Dept.. He helped spearhead the effort in 2010 to consolidate the Fire Company and Ambulance Association to form Forest City Area Emergency Services. He served in a number of offices with the Fire Company, including secretary and assistant fire chief, and Ambulance Association over the years.

In 1970 he joined with a large group of Forest City area citizen volunteers to found and organize the Tri-County Ambulance Association, later to become Forest City Area Ambulance Association. This included fundraising to purchase the first ambulance vehicle.

He was one of the first EMTs (emergency medical technicians) to be trained to serve on the ambulance, and took continued training in following years as regulations continued to be implemented for EMTs. For many years he was captain and also served as treasurer of the Ambulance Association. He also worked with Cottage Hose Co. ambulance, Carbondale.

He was past president of Northeastern Pennsylvania Volunteer Ambulance Federation. On the Northeastern Pennsylvania Volunteer Firemen's Federation he was past president, treasurer, executive committee, fire training director, chief and various other committees.

On the Firemen's Association of the State of Pennsylvania he was past president, executive committee, representative to the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council, Northeast Director, Eastern vice president, senior vice president, executive planning committee, emergency medical services committee chairman and various other committees.

He attended the Congressional Fire Services Institute Conferences and dinners in Washington, D.C. the International Association of Fire Services Instructors conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner's Conferences in Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute conferences in Harrisburg. He was Tail Twister

for the Ancient Antediluvian and Honorable Order of Goosenecks.

He was awarded a plaque for his 50 years of service to the Forest City Fire Dept., Ambulance Service and Forest City Emergency Services but was unable to attend due to his illness.

Many people in the community over the years have told the family he was a familiar and very calming face when he arrived on the ambulance to take them or a family member to the hospital. He served many years as an EMT and officer of the Ambulance Association, ending his service only when health issues prevented him.

He was a graduate of Lackawanna College and became a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, first working in the Philadelphia area and then for many years in the Carbondale Post Office, mostly in Simpson. His family was also often told how his friendly manner was so much appreciated by those on his mail route, especially senior citizens. He retired from the Postal Service and then served as a school bus driver in Forest City Regional School District until he retired as driver in 2014.

He was a member of the Million Mile Club after being accident-free with the U.S. Postal Service.

His best friend over the years was fellow mail carrier, Bob Duffy, Brown Dale, now retired, who was a steadfast helper for he and Maryann during their friendship and especially during his many illnesses.

He was also a man of faith, serving for a time as Eucharistic Minister in St. Agnes Church, and then a member of Ascension Parish. He was a member of the Forest City Council #3506 Knights of Columbus and is a 4th degree Knight of Columbus and a former member of Knights of Lithuania.

He was an Old Home Week volunteer for many years, namely the voice of the annual Old Home Week parade. He was the former Emergency Management Coordinator for the Steamtown Marathon which starts in Forest City every year. He is a retired Sergeant with the Forest City Police Dept. having served for over 24 years, and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 63. In later years he served as a supervisor and also Emergency Management Manager of Herrick Township.

Survivors in addition to his wife, are a sister, Carole H. Kameen and husband John, Forest City, as well as nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank Home Health Care Professionals and Hospice, Dr. Heim and staff and Dr. Bekele, and especially his caregivers, Dave, Nikkie and Ryan.

In order to comply with COVID attendance rules, the funeral is scheduled for a private viewing of family on Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 4pm to 8pm, with a public viewing Thursday, from 9:30 to 11am, prior to 11am Mass in Ascension Parish, Forest City. Arrangements by the Jones & Brennan Funeral Home, Forest City.

The family asks that donations be made to Pleasant Mount Emergency Services, Forest City Area Emergency Services, or Union Dale Fire Company.

**Elizabeth J. Danowski**  
Yellow Springs, OH

Elizabeth "Bettie" Danowski, 85, of Yellow Springs, Ohio passed away at home on September 25, 2020. She was the wife of the late Edmund Danowski, M.D., who passed away in 1970.

Elizabeth was born to the late Stephen and Mary (Tursic) Selinsky on January 24, 1935 in Forest City, Pennsylvania. She was a graduate of Forest City High School and obtained her R.N. from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Carbondale, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth later went on to obtain her Master of Social Work.

Elizabeth was a kind and loving person who saw the good in everyone. She will always be remembered for her genuine concern and acceptance of others.

Elizabeth is survived by her sons Michael (Susan), Stephen (Lynden), and Paul; daughter Marianne (Marty) Sapp; brothers Joseph and Robert; and sisters Margaret Slick, Bernadine Cooper, and Maryann Logar. She was preceded in death by her brother Paul; and sisters Jean Wallace, Dorothy (Tootsie) Gantar, and Geraldine Selinsky.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

# D&H Challenges – A Busy Trail in September

The D&H Rail-Trail Challenge wrapped up the end of September with record numbers out on the trail-biking, running, and walking. The challenge replaced the D&H Distance Run as the major fund-raiser for the maintenance of the trail. The Rail-Trail Council registered 204 trail users to either run the ½ or 5K, bike 20 or 40 miles, or walk any section of trail. We are grateful for the number of participants who celebrated Pa's Trail month with us and sent us their results and pictures.

Special thanks to our sponsors, both long-time and new who helped to make this event happen:

Spring Hill Foundation, Honesdale National Bank, WBRE PA Live, Resource Environmental Management, Kost Tire, Linde Corporation, UGI Utilities, KW Oil, Lenox Propane, Comprehensive Physical Therapy (CPT), New Enterprise Stone & Lime, Grimm Construction, Michael Barbetti CPA, Keystone Propane, Brian T. Kelly, CPA, Advance Hear-

## Bethel Comm. Church Hunter & Firearms Classes are set

HUNTER and FIREARMS SAFETY CLASSES at Bethel Community Church, 248 Welch Hill Road, Clifford Twp, PA

SAT., Oct. 10 – NRA Basic Pistol Safety/Shooting Course - \$80.00

Please sign up at <https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=570655&seats=8&State=n&zip=18826&radius=25.1&id=56%2c1&bsa=&you th=&women=>

SAT., Oct. 24 – NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course - \$80.00

Please sign up at <https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=592152&seats=8&State=n&zip=18470&radius=25.1&id=56%2c1%2c3&bsa=&you th=&women=>

Please call 570-396-8547 to pre-register. Register online for NRA classes and PA Game Commission for the Hunter Safety Course

ALL NRA Courses are taught by Certified NRA Instructors, PA Hunter Safety Course taught by Certified PA Game Commission Instructors. Handicap, Women, Junior and Senior Learners are Welcome.

All Presidential Guidelines/Precautions for COVID 19 are Recommended for Each Course.

## Free Lunch at Cold Spring Kitchen Oct. 17

Cold Spring Chapel's Community Kitchen will host a free soup and sandwich lunch on Sat., Oct. 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy potato soup, hoagie sandwiches, and apple pie.

Take out, or eat in with social distancing being observed. The Community Kitchen is located at the crossroads of Upper Woods Road and Great Bend Turnpike (371W) Lebanon Township, Wayne County. For more information check them out on Facebook.

ing, LaBella, Breichle Law offices, Elk Mountain, The Dime Bank, Masters Concrete, Chet's Place, Greenfield Power Equipment and First National Bank. Other Friends of the Trail were: Fitzsimmons Insurance, Hendrick Manufacturing, Rich Kresock Insurance, Idlewild Ski Shop, Gerber Associates Real Estate, Nikki's at the Ben Mar, Pettinato's Restaurant, and NEP Telephone.

Donated certificates were raffled off to registrants: Elk Mountains weekday passes were won by Bob Hendrickson of Union Dale, William Beardell of Wilmington, DE and Michael Boyko of Taylor. An Idlewild Ski Shop gift certificate was won by Suzanne Morgan of Dickson City. A Pettinato's Restaurant gift certificate was won by Margaret Hatch of Dickson city and a Nikki's at the Ben-Mar gift certificate was won by Yudis Lazo of Simpson.

For more information, call 570.679.9300, or email [trails@nep.net](mailto:trails@nep.net).

## Porch Sales In Equinunk Sat., Oct. 10

The popular "Porch Sales" at the Equinunk Historical Society will end on Saturday, October 10. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This sale will feature fall items, plus a large assortment of Christmas decorations. The Porch Sales have been fun - Enjoy shopping safely OUT-DOORS! New items have been arriving daily - shelves are well-stocked. The village is all decked out in beautiful colors for your enjoyment, and with no serious weather in sight for next week, the leaves should hold until you arrive.

EHS is located at the junction of Pine Mill Rd. and Rte. 191 in the heart of the village. The address for your GPS is 1972 Pine Mill Rd. For more information, call 570-224-6722.

## Wayne County Fills over 7,000 Ballot requests

The Tri-County Independent reported last week that the Wayne County Bureau of Elections sent out more than 7,000 mail-in and absentee ballots on Sept. 28. These represent requests made by voters in the past few months.

Director Cindy Furman said more ballots will be mailed out as requests come in.

Susquehanna County ballots are expected to be mailed-out this week.

## U'Dale Fire Co. Chicken BBQ Sun., Oct. 25

The Union Dale Fire Company will hold a Chicken BBQ on Sunday, October 25 from 11 AM to 1 PM. It will be TAKE OUT ONLY at the Union Dale Fire Hall. Tickets can be purchased at Cable's General Store in Union Dale or from any fire company member. For additional information contact Chief Tom Yale 570-679-2589.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The state of Ohio gives out different colored license plates for those convicted of DUI?

**Funeral Arrangements**

**KEVIN M. LESJACK**  
FUNERAL HOME

513 Main Street, Forest City, PA  
**570.785.3153**  
[lesjackfuneralhome.com](http://lesjackfuneralhome.com)

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES AND ADVERTISING NO LATER THAN 9 A.M. OF THE MONDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION.**

**Jones & Brennan Funeral Home**  
430 Main Street, Forest City, PA 18421  
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**SEAN P. MCGRAW, ESQ.**  
Attorney-at-law

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